

Offender Treatment Advisory Group CHARTER

BACKGROUND

On November 7, 2000, voters approved the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act (SACPA) of 2000. The Act made substantial change to both the substance abuse treatment and criminal justice systems. The Act appropriated \$60 million to the General Fund in 2000-01 and \$120 million annually through 2005-06 for treatment, probation costs, court monitoring, family counseling, vocational training, literacy training, and other miscellaneous costs made necessary by the measure.

The FY 2006-07 State Budget continued The Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA) funding at \$120 million. Additionally, the new Offender Treatment Program (OTP) was enacted by the budget trailer bill (Assembly Bill 1808 [Chapter 75, 2006 Statutes], adding Health and Safety Code Division 10.10), effective immediately. This program makes \$25 million available to counties to improve treatment program outcomes for SACPA offenders and ultimately enhance cost savings identified through the UCLA study. The program is operative for two years and sunsets July 1, 2009.

PURPOSE

The Offender Treatment Advisory Group is chartered to identify issues and make recommendations to the Office of Criminal Justice Collaboration (OCJC) regarding:

- Enhancing system integration between criminal justice agencies and drug treatment systems within the counties
- Improving levels of suitability, acceptance, participation and accountability of offenders referred to treatment
- Engaging and retain offenders in treatment once admitted
- Matching severity of dependence to intensity of services with broader, more accessible services to special populations (e.g., minorities or individuals with co-occurring disorders)

GOALS

- Enhance treatment services for offenders assessed to need them, including residential treatment and narcotic replacement therapy
- Increase the proportion of sentenced offenders who enter, remain in, and complete treatment, through activities and approaches such as co-location of services, enhanced supervision of offenders, and enhanced services determined necessary through the use of drug test results

- Reduce delays in the availability of appropriate treatment services
- Use of a drug court model, including dedicated court calendars with regularly scheduled reviews of treatment progress, and strong collaboration by the courts, probation, and treatment
- Develop treatment services that are needed but not available
- Other activities, approaches, and services approved by the department, after consultation with stakeholders

SCOPE

The Offender Treatment Advisory Group will focus on seeking to improve program outcomes through strategies identified by the five-year SACPA evaluation conducted by the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and other research.

MEMBERSHIP

Members will be selected from the Criminal Justice field, treatment field and other fields with expertise relevant to the new scope of the Offender Treatment Advisory Group.

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